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64th YEAR NUMBER 19,931. RICHMOND, VA., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1914. TWELVE PAGES TO-DAY'S WEATHER FAIR PRICE 2 CENTS.

## SHOOT HIS WIFE AFTER QUARREL

R. L. Shelton Says He Was Driven Almost Insane by Nagging of Her Relatives.

## CONDITION IS PRECARIOUS

Husband Arrested at Boarding-House When About to Take His Own Life.

It L. Shelton, 529 Haynes Avenue, Brookland Park, late yesterday afternoon shot his wife, Lettie, through the head, following a quarrel which took place in the dining-room of their home, before the eyes of his two small children. The man fired three shots, the first two missing their mark, but the third and last striking Mrs. Shelton just below the right ear and passing through the face, making its exit several inches below the left ear. The jawbone was broken, but it was said that the Virginia Hospital early this morning that the woman was thought to have an even chance for life. Shelton was arrested and is being held at the Second Police Station. He will be arraigned in Police Court this morning.

## NEIGHBORS CALL IN POLICE AND AMBULANCE

Persons at the residence of C. E. Fugate, 527 Haynes Avenue, are said to have communicated the first news of the shooting to the Second Police Station. Mounted Officer Allen was hurried to the scene, only to find that Shelton had armed himself and would resist, and that his wife was in what appeared to him to be a dying condition. He summoned assistance and called the ambulance. Policemen Fennell, Deskins and Justice of the Peace Purdie were rushed to the scene of the shooting in the Police Station. A doctor and a nurse, the ambulance, with Surgeon J. B. Walker in charge, arrived at the spot at about the same time, and Mrs. Shelton was immediately hurried to the hospital.

## SHELTON TRACED TO BOARDING-HOUSE

Justice of the Peace Purdie called several places over the telephone before he succeeded in learning that Shelton had been to Floyd's saloon, about a mile and a half from the scene of the shooting, and had been chasing some whiskey. He informed Floyd that he was going to his boarding-house, 108 West Marshall Street. Justice Purdie communicated with the Second Station, and Police Constable Krueger was sent to the boarding-house. He found Shelton standing in a front room, threatening to kill himself, and to shoot any one who attempted to interfere. Krueger rushed the man to the station, where he was held. He was tempted to draw the revolver, which had already been used with murderous intent, and after a short struggle, secured it. Shelton pulled the trigger, but the bullet failed to go, and he was brought to the station house without further trouble.

## SAYS RELATIVES HAD NAGGED HIM FOR YEARS

"My life has been one of torment for the last few years, and I believe it is because of the nagging of my relatives," said Shelton, who had driven any other man insane.

Asked why he disliked his wife so much, Shelton replied:

"It goes back a number of years, of course, but the real cause of the trouble to-night was the result of charges which she and her brother, John T. Gresham, brought against me last Saturday, and which resulted in my being fined and sent to the Police Court on Monday. Their charges of assaulting and kicking her was a prevarication, and the evidence they gave perjury. I have never struck her in my life, and I have never given her a cent. I made for household use, with the exception of a dollar which I kept out each week for tobacco. Mrs. Shelton has been persistently nagging me for years, and I have been aided in this by her brother, who has been living with us.

That man has been living with us for months. He has never paid a cent of board, and I have been doing, to secure a living for my family and for him. I have even carried bricks to my room and have been doing so for six months and contributed nothing toward defraying the expenses of my room. I have been told that I have been doing so for six months and contributed nothing toward defraying the expenses of my room. I have been told that I have been doing so for six months and contributed nothing toward defraying the expenses of my room.

"After the proceedings in court Monday I moved my residence to that of Harry Thorne, 105 West Marshall Street. I returned home yesterday afternoon to find that Mrs. Gresham and the children were in the house when I asked her to check the bills to see if they were correct before I paid them. She asked her brother what to do. He told her to refuse to have anything to do with the matter, and she replied to me that she knew nothing about them.

"At that everything went black before me. I knew what was doing, but I could hardly see. I seemed to go mad with anger. I snatched the pistol from my pocket and began shooting. Gresham was closest to the door, and dashed through. I pulled the trigger again and again before Mrs. Shelton stumbled through the door. When I appeared to have somewhat regained myself, little Austin was standing by the door. I snatched him and came back to the children. I meant them no harm. The set table was not disturbed by any one, and the supper is still there. By that time Fugate had come in and soon took the children away. I went to his home to see them, and told them that I would remain at the house.

(Continued on Second Page.)

## WARSHIPS GOING TO PANAMA CANAL

They Will Be on Guard to Protect Neutrality of Zone.

## WILSON MAKES DECISION

Number of Vessels Will Be Determined on Full Report From Goethals.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—President Wilson and his Cabinet decided to-day to send American warships to the Canal Zone to guard against neutrality violations by belligerent ships. Just how many ships will be dispatched will be determined after a full report has been received from Governor Goethals of the Canal Zone, and Captain Rodman, naval officer at the canal.

Both Secretary Garrison and Secretary Daniels made it clear to-day that the delay in acting on Colonel Goethals' request for destroyers was due to a lack of information. Mr. Garrison explained that the colonel had asked for destroyers without specifying the purpose of their use. In reply to a message of inquiry, Colonel Goethals explained that wireless regulations were being violated in canal waters, and referred to the misuse of the Canal Zone as a base of supplies. The War Department again asked for specific instances of what had occurred, but to-night no further information had been received.

If the Canal Zone is being used as a base of supplies, Colonel Goethals will be instructed to use his land forces. Should it develop that the wireless is being used within the territorial waters, the Navy Department will demand an explanation from its naval officers, as the question of wireless regulation is up to the Navy Department.

## BIG CHRISTMAS SHIPMENTS

American Gifts Going to Europe on Unprecedented Scale.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—American Christmas gifts are going to war-torn countries of Europe on an unprecedented scale, despite transportation interruptions.

Reports to-day to the Post-Office Department show the steamer St. Paul sailing on Saturday carried 300,000 gifts. There were only two others, the single ocean mail shipment ever made, which included 1,000 sacks containing parcels for Great Britain and Ireland.

By another ship 1,000 sacks were dispatched to Germany and Austria, for which reasonable assurances of delivery have been received.

## BIDS FOR NEW SUBMARINES

Lump Appropriation of \$4,408,000 Must Provide for Eight Boats.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Bids were opened to-day at the Navy Department for the construction of eight submarines, one of which is to displace between 925 and 1,066 tons (the exact specifications are a naval secret). The great diving ship must have a speed of twenty knots, and be able to operate on the surface and under water; with oil fuel, and be of sufficient cruising capacity to accompany a fleet around the world.

There were only two bidders, the Electric Boat Company and the Lake Submarine Torpedo Boat Company. The latter submitted thirty separate bids, for the big seagoing submarine, the lowest at \$1,350,000 for a vessel of 925 tons, while the Lake Company's bid for smaller harbor defense boats was the lowest, being \$376,000 for a vessel of 250 tons.

As the lump appropriation of \$4,408,000 must provide for at least eight boats, it would appear that it would be necessary to choose the smaller in at least seven cases.

## RENOUNCES ENGLISH HONORS

Baron Carl Statin Pacha Made Privy Counsellor by Austrian Emperor.

AMSTERDAM (via London), December 15 (11:20 P. M.).—The Vossische Zeitung, of Berlin, says that Baron Carl Statin Pacha, who has been made a privy counsellor by the Austrian Emperor, has renounced his English appointments and decorations.

Statin Pacha was born in Austria in 1857, and in 1878 went to Soudan, where he was appointed by General Gordon as Governor of Darfur. Later he became British inspector-general of the Soudan. A Berlin dispatch last August said he had resigned when Great Britain declared war against Germany. He was an honorary major-general in the British army and a lieutenant-general in the Egyptian army.

In Great Britain he received numerous decorations. He was created a baron of the Austrian empire in 1906.

## BRISBANE MUCH BETTER

Physicians, After Consultation, Decide Operation Is Not Necessary.

ATLANTA, GA., December 15.—Distinct improvement was reported by the attending physicians to-day in the condition of Arthur Brisbane, the New York editor, who has been seriously ill of intestinal trouble, in this city for several days. Mr. Brisbane has been removed from a local hotel to a hospital, where his physicians, after a consultation early to-day, decided that an operation would not be necessary at present.

## FURTHER TROOPS ORDERED TO NACO

Wilson Instructs Garrison to Send Reinforcements to Mexican Border.

## REQUEST IS MADE BY BLISS

Preparing to Enforce Demands That Firing Across Boundary Line Stop.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Further demonstration was made by the United States yesterday in the way of its determination not to tolerate continued firing by the Mexican factions at Naco, Sonora, into American territory.

President Wilson, after a brief discussion with his Cabinet, instructed Secretary Garrison to comply with the request of Brigadier-General Tasker H. Bliss, at Naco, Arizona, for reinforcements to handle a possible emergency situation. Three regiments of infantry and three batteries of artillery were ordered to Naco.

The general understanding to-night in administration quarters was that, as soon as the additional American forces were in position on the line, the United States would return any artillery or infantry fire which might come from Mexican territory. As it is believed that the Mexican factions will require three days for the troops to reach Naco, the Mexican factions have virtually that much time to comply with the American demands, or be subjected to their own positions.

## STATEMENT ISSUED BY SECRETARY GARRISON

The reinforcements ordered to-day will bring the total force of the American army at Naco to eleven troops of cavalry, three regiments of infantry and six batteries of artillery, with twenty-four guns. The following statement was issued by Secretary Garrison to-day:

"In view of conditions on the border, as he sees them, General Bliss has requested that additional infantry and artillery be sent him. In compliance with his request, the following troops are being dispatched to and placed under his command. These reinforcements are being requested and sent as a measure of precaution. The troops to be sent are three regiments of infantry from Galveston or Texas City and one battery of 47 guns and two batteries of 47 howitzers from Fort Sill, Okla."

Firing by the Mexican factions has been intermittent for several days. The United States already has outlined that it intends to take "defensive" and not "aggressive" action, and as soon as it has an adequate force in position, officials believe one or the other of the Mexican factions will withdraw.

## LIFE PRISONER ON PAROLE

Lewis Oliver Widely Known as Man Sentenced for Stealing Ham.

LANSING, MICH., December 15.—Governor Ferris has ordered the parole of Michigan's most widely known prisoner, Lewis Oliver, known as the man who was sentenced to life for stealing a ham.

Oliver was sent to Marquette under the habitual criminal act. It was his third conviction for burglary.

In 1911 Oliver was first sent to Jackson for three years for burglary. The second time the judge sentenced him to ten years in Jackson, and the third time he would have been sentenced to life, but the second sentence began March 23, 1911, and on March 28, 1914, Oliver broke into a meat store and stole a ham and \$3.50. He was convicted.

## LABEL SUIT DISMISSED

James M. Lynch Loses Action Against Manufacturers' Association.

NEW YORK, December 15.—Supreme Court Justice Guy to-day dismissed the \$100,000 label suit instituted by James M. Lynch, former president of the International Typographical Union, against John Kirby and other directors of the National Association of Manufacturers for passing resolutions charging the union with responsibility for the dynamite explosion in the Los Angeles Times Building in 1910.

Justice Guy held that no officers of the union were specifically mentioned in the resolutions, and that "when a label is issued against a whole class, no single individual can sue for libel against his author."

Criticism against corporations, the court continued, have been freely made in New York State since 1815 "without exposing the critics to prosecution."

## ONE OUT OF TEN GETS CHARITY

Partial or Complete Support Given 250,000 Residents of Cook County.

CHICAGO, December 15.—One out of every ten persons in Chicago receives aid from public charity, according to report to-day of the retiring president of the Board of Public Charities.

The report states that during the current year partial or complete support was given at public expense to 250,000 residents of Cook County.

These figures it was pointed out, exclude the number of persons who applied for aid to private organizations.

## BURGLAR SHOTS LAWYER

Charles B. Reynolds, of Atlanta, Killed in Revolver Duel in His Home.

ATLANTA, GA., December 15.—Charles B. Reynolds, a lawyer, was shot and instantly killed early this morning in a revolver battle with a burglar in his home here. Reynolds fired four times before he was killed. The burglar escaped.

The Reynolds home is in a fashionable neighborhood. The lawyer dropped his revolver in the hall, and this is the only clue to his identity.

## FIRE IN HEART OF ATLANTA

Causes Damage Estimated at \$100,000 to Two Concerns.

ATLANTA, GA., December 15.—Fire in the heart of the business district here early to-day caused damage estimated at \$100,000 to the Elyea Austin Company, dealers in automobile accessories, and the Tripod Paint Company. The blaze originated in the establishment of the former concern, and for a time threatened to spread to other buildings in the block.

# ALLIES PUSH OFFENSIVE WITH STRONG FORCES



Ortelburg, whose ruins are shown in the photo, is a German town on the Russian frontier. The Russians, in their march on East Prussia, bombarded the town with telling effect, as may be judged by the ruins, but were completely repulsed. The Germans under Field Marshal von Hindenburg, in command of the German forces in East Prussia, regardless of the ruins all about them, on the regular market day merchants and hucksters took their accustomed places in the Market Platz with their supply of foodstuffs.

## DELAY RESULTS FROM HASTY WORK OF COUNCIL

Aldermen Find Ordinance Giving Work to Unemployed to Be Defective.

## SUBSTITUTE MEASURE PASSED

No Expending Body Named in Appropriation as Adopted by Lower Branch—Special Meeting of Council Called for Friday Night.

Prevented from giving the expected immediate relief to the city's unemployed by an eleventh-hour discovery that the ordinance as passed on December 7 by the Common Council was defective, the Board of Aldermen last night passed a substitute ordinance appropriating \$125,000 for immediate expenditure for public work under the direction of the Administrative Board.

When it became apparent that the ordinance as passed by the Council would not be concurred in by the Board, the Board of Aldermen last night passed a substitute ordinance appropriating \$125,000 for immediate expenditure for public work under the direction of the Administrative Board.

## FOUND DEFECTIVE

The ordinance passed by the Common Council on December 7 reads as follows:

"Be it ordained by the Council of the city of Richmond, that the sum of \$125,000 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to the credit of an account to be raised and known as special improvement fund, which shall be used for the purpose of making needed public improvements, including the employment of labor, supplies and equipment, and said board shall draw upon said account by proper vouchers, charging the same against the proper department accounts. All work under this ordinance shall be by per diem employment."

In this form the measure was reported to the Board last night for concurrence, and a crowded chamber was held to witness the unanimous approval of the measure that had been forestalled.

## PULLER DISCOVERS FLAW IN MEASURE

Alderman Puller discovered the fatal flaw. He pointed out that the ordinance as drawn failed to designate the expending authority. While it was generally understood that the Administrative Board was to administer the appropriation, only an indefinite reference was made in the ordinance to an unnamed board. To pass such an ordinance, said Mr. Puller, would only mean that City Auditor Greenhaw would decline to honor any drafts upon the fund, since no expending authority was designated, and the planned relief would be indefinitely delayed.

Alderman Gunst was inclined to believe that the reference, in view of the wide publicity that the method of administering the fund had attained, was explicit enough, and said that he was prepared to vote to concur in the ordinance as passed by the lower branch. The measure, he thought, was of such a pressing nature that it could not afford to be delayed longer.

## PROPOSITION SUGGESTS ORIGINAL

At this point in the discussion Alderman Workman moved as a substitute for the defective ordinance reported from the Common Council the passage of the measure prepared by the Finance Committee, segregating the \$125,000 appropriation to the several departments. This ordinance had been defeated in the Common Council on the ground that the division of the sum among the several departments would hamper the Administrative Board in using the appropriation to the best advantage.

## FINANCIAL CONDITIONS ARE GREATLY IMPROVED

Some of Country's Most Prominent Bankers Report to Federal Reserve Board.

## SHORT-TERM MONEY IS CHEAP

Advisory Council Holds First Session at Washington—Opinions Received as Promising Indication That Business Generally Is Reviving.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Financial conditions throughout the United States have improved greatly in the last few months, according to reports to the Federal Reserve Board to-day by some of the country's most prominent bankers. Credit conditions were said to be exceptionally good, reserves abundant and short-term money cheap.

The reports were made by members of the advisory council, the only body authorized by the reserve act to give advice to the Federal Reserve Board. The council's members are J. P. Morgan and J. B. Morgan are among members of the council. Their opinions on conditions over the country were received by the board as a most promising indication that business generally is reviving.

The council held its first session here to-day, and met twice with the board. It made no concrete recommendations, although the board asked for advice on questions relating to time deposits, use of acceptances, and the admission into the Federal system of State banks.

## COMMENTS OF BOARD ON DAYS' CONFERENCES

In a statement to-night, the board said this comment on to-day's conferences:

"At the joint meeting it was suggested with reference to State banks that care be used in order to admit to the system only those institutions which were strong and sound, and forming the service in a commercial way, while at the same time taking pains to protect the national banks of the system from the full enjoyment of their privileges. Careful examination of all entering banks was recommended."

It was stated that in many parts of the country many State banks are in a state of weakness, and that the Federal Reserve Board is seeking admission to the system under proper conditions.

"The meeting developed an unusual degree of enthusiasm over the prospect of the Federal reserve system, particularly with reference to the clearing of checks when properly safeguarded and applied."

The board announced to-night that the Federal banks in Cleveland and Kansas City to-day lowered their rediscount rates to correspond to those authorized yesterday for Atlanta. A further retirement of emergency currency is expected to follow. The membership includes George J. Seay, Richmond, and Charles L. Lyster, Atlanta.

## RICHMOND BANK MAKES CUT IN DISCOUNT RATE

Beginning to-morrow, the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond will put into effect the following rate of discount: maturities up to thirty days, 6 per cent; maturities from thirty to sixty days, 6 1/2 per cent; and maturities beyond sixty days, 7 per cent. The present rates for thirty and sixty days were 5 1/2 and 6 per cent, respectively. These rates have been in force since December 4, when they were adopted to succeed the 6 and 6 1/2 per cent rates under which the local bank began business on November 16. An order authorizing the second reduction since the opening of the bank, effective to-morrow, was received yesterday by the local authorities from the Federal Reserve Board. Notices were dispatched last night to the member banks of the Fifth District, informing them of the reduction.

(Continued on Second Page.)

## FRENCH REPORTS CLAIM SUCCESS AT ALL POINTS

Developments Show Appreciable Advance During Last Two Days.

## VIGOROUS FIGHTING AGAIN IN PROGRESS

Germans Declare Attacks Are Unsuccessful at Several Places.

## RUSSIAN VICTORY ADMITTED

Austrians Not Yet Recovered From Surprise Given Them by Serbians.

## Important Gains Made by Allies

THE long expected attempt by the allies to advance seems to be under way in Belgium, and if credence can be given official reports, important gains have been made by the French, British and Belgians.

From Neuport, says the French official statement, the French-Belgian columns have debouched and occupied the line from the west of Lombardzede to the farm of Saint Georges. Lombardzede lies about one mile and a half north of Neuport, and Saint Georges is about one mile southeast of Neuport. This operation, therefore, has given them the line running virtually a mile to the east of Neuport, and extending almost north and south for a distance of about two miles.

The French report a gain along a three-mile line from Holbeke to Wytschaete, to the south of Ypres, against which city German attacks of a violent nature were being directed almost incessantly a few days ago.

Further to the east there has been a gain of nearly a third of a mile in the direction of Klein Zillebeke.

The French War Office admits the success of German infantrymen in gaining a foothold at Stenbach, in Alsace, although declaring the French still hold the heights overlooking that place.

In Russian Poland the Russians claim complete success in the Mlawa region, but report later forces of Germans concentrating on the left bank of the Vistula, with the arrival of German reinforcements. The French have been fighting in the neighborhood of Lovitz, for two days, and are alternating in taking aggressive side.

Though the Austrians have been forced to withdraw from Belgrade, and now occupy only a small part of Servia, they balance against this a strong offensive in Western Galicia, which they declare has compelled the Russians to retreat, and resulted in the capture of 31,000 prisoners.

The United States has decided to send warships to Panama Canal Zone to guard against violations of neutrality there by belligerent ships.

LONDON, December 15 (9:30 P. M.).—The offensive movement of the French and British has become general, and is being pushed with strong forces, particularly in Flanders, the Argonne, the Meuse and Alsace. While the French claim success at all points except Stenbach, in Alsace, the German official report says the allies' attacks have been unsuccessful at several places.

On the whole, however, it would appear that the allies, who now have a superiority in numbers as well as in artillery, have made progress and have withstood vigorous German counterattacks.

The fact that the allies are in possession of Holbeke, in Flanders, and that heavy fighting was going on again to-day shows that they have made an appreciable advance during the past two days, as last week they were being attacked by the invaders two miles west of St. Eloy, on the Ypres-Arras road.

In the Argonne region, the French say: "We have made progress and maintained our advance of the preceding days."

## EXPECT MAIN ATTACK

The force which has been checked at Stenbach is the left wing of the army, which for some time has been fighting its way toward Muelhausen and which has cleared a considerable part of Alsace. It is evident that while the Germans are prepared to offer stubborn resistance to attempted advances in the regions mentioned in the official communications, they expect the main attack of the allies to be made in another direction, or themselves are preparing for an offensive for they have gathered considerable forces at Courtrai, from where they could be transferred quickly either to Flanders or southward across the French frontier.

The only news from the east to-night was the admission of the German general staff that the German column, which advanced through Mlawa toward Warsaw, has recaptured its old positions, owing to the